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\$220 MILLION: LOTTERY'S TALLY TO EDUCATION LOTTERY FUND

RALEIGH- The North Carolina Education Lottery (NCEL) today transferred over \$75.3 million to the Education Lottery Fund bringing the total amount transferred to \$220 million. This latest transfer represents 35.35% of total quarterly revenues. This is the NCEL's third transfer to the fund.

The Lottery Act designates that as nearly as practicable at least 35 percent of NCEL sales go to the following beneficiary programs: class size reduction in early grades and pre-kindergarten programs for at-risk four year olds; school construction; and college scholarships for students who qualify for the federal Pell Grant. According to the Department of Public Instruction Public School Capital Fund Web page, so far the Education Lottery Fund has funded 16 school projects that include new school construction, a security surveillance system, roof replacements and more.

"It gives me great pleasure when we make a transfer knowing that these proceeds will be used to benefit the young people of North Carolina," said Tom Shaheen, NCEL executive director. "Every time I hear about the funds being used for a new school, school improvements or the thousands of students that will receive scholarships, I know our mission is on track."

The NCEL made the electronic transfer to the Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) to be disbursed to the beneficiary programs. The Department of Public Instruction will manage the distribution of the funds for all the beneficiary programs except the college scholarships, which will be handled by the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority.

In the second quarter of Fiscal Year 06-07, the NCEL raised a little over \$213 million total revenue. Two more transfers will be made to the fund before the Fiscal Year 06-07 ends June 30.

For more information about the NCEL, visit its Web site at www.nc-educationlottery.org or call (919) 715-6886.

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